

5-24-90

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**"This shelter is battery operated"**

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*Death ...  
Pro and Con*

See page 2

**'Posturepaedic'  
actors search  
for a pea**

See page 6

**Thursday**

May 24, 1990

# VALLEY STAR

Van Nuys, California

Serving Valley College for 41 years

Vol. 41, No. 28

## Valley heptathlete sets school record at State

By SHANE POWERS  
Staff Writer

Melanie Clarke blew through the field this past weekend in Santa Barbara to win her first Heptathlon and set a school record for most points recorded by a heptathlete.

"I really wanted to win this thing," said Clarke. "I put my whole life into training for this and it finally paid off."

Clarke won the event with an impressive total of 5,034 points, with the second place finisher, Edwina Ammonds (Kings River), coming in 500 points behind her.

The first event of the Heptathlon, a seven event extravaganza, is the 100 meter high hurdles. Clarke came in third in the event with a time of 16.05 and received 708 points for her time. Ammonds was in the lead after the hurdles, as she recorded a blistering time of 15.15, which earned her 822 points.

"I wasn't real worried after the hurdles," said Clarke. "I knew Edwina would be tough to beat in the hurdles."

The next event was the icer, as Clarke never lost the lead after the high jump, when she made a colossal leap of 5 ft. 8 in. She scored 891 points with that leap and won the event by 150 points, because Ammonds could only muster a 5 ft. 3-and-a-half in. jump.

*"I really wanted to win this ...  
Melanie Clarke*

The next event, the shot put, meant more doom for the other competitors, as Clarke registered a overall point total to 2,182 points after three events.

"I pretty much knew I had it after the shot put," said Clarke. "It was

just a matter of my not hurting myself and staying fresh."

The last event of the first day was the 200 meter dash which put the final nail into the coffin, as Clarke blazed down the track and across the tape for a time of 25:64. That time combined with the other competitors' considerably slower times, gave Clarke a 135-point lead, a margin that would be insurmountable.

"I knew it was over after the first day," said Ammonds. "She [Clarke] was just too much to handle. We couldn't keep up with her."

The second day of the competition got no better for the others as Clarke continued exactly where she left off, scoring 674 points in the long jump, with a 17 ft. 9 in. burst that upped her point total to 3685. That, combined with Ammonds' lowly leap of 17 ft and one half in., gave Clarke a 200 point lead with just two events remaining.

See Clarke, page 6

## Professors debate death

By CHRISTOPHER D. SHARPE  
Staff Writer

Staged as a part of the Political Awareness Festival, Professor Jack Sterk, defending the status quo, and Professor Farrel Broslawsky, in opposition, took part in a capital punishment debate.

The debate, held yesterday in Monarch Hall was mediated by Professor Jim Marteney.

The format of the debate consisted of opening remarks, a series of questions and answers and the final summation.

Broslawsky opened by stating that debates are nothing more than an avoidance of the issue at hand, because of interest in form and time.

limitations on the speakers.

"It's probably appropriate that you debate something like the death penalty because it is, in itself, an evasion of what really concerns people, which is a violent crime," said Broslawsky. "The truth of the matter is that state-sanctioned execution has nothing at all to do with violent crime. There is no evidence at all that the death penalty deters violent crime."

Sterk responded that Broslawsky was confused about the nature of the death penalty in the United States.

"My philosophy for this debate was best stated by John Stuart Mills, who wrote 'we show our respect for human life by the adop-

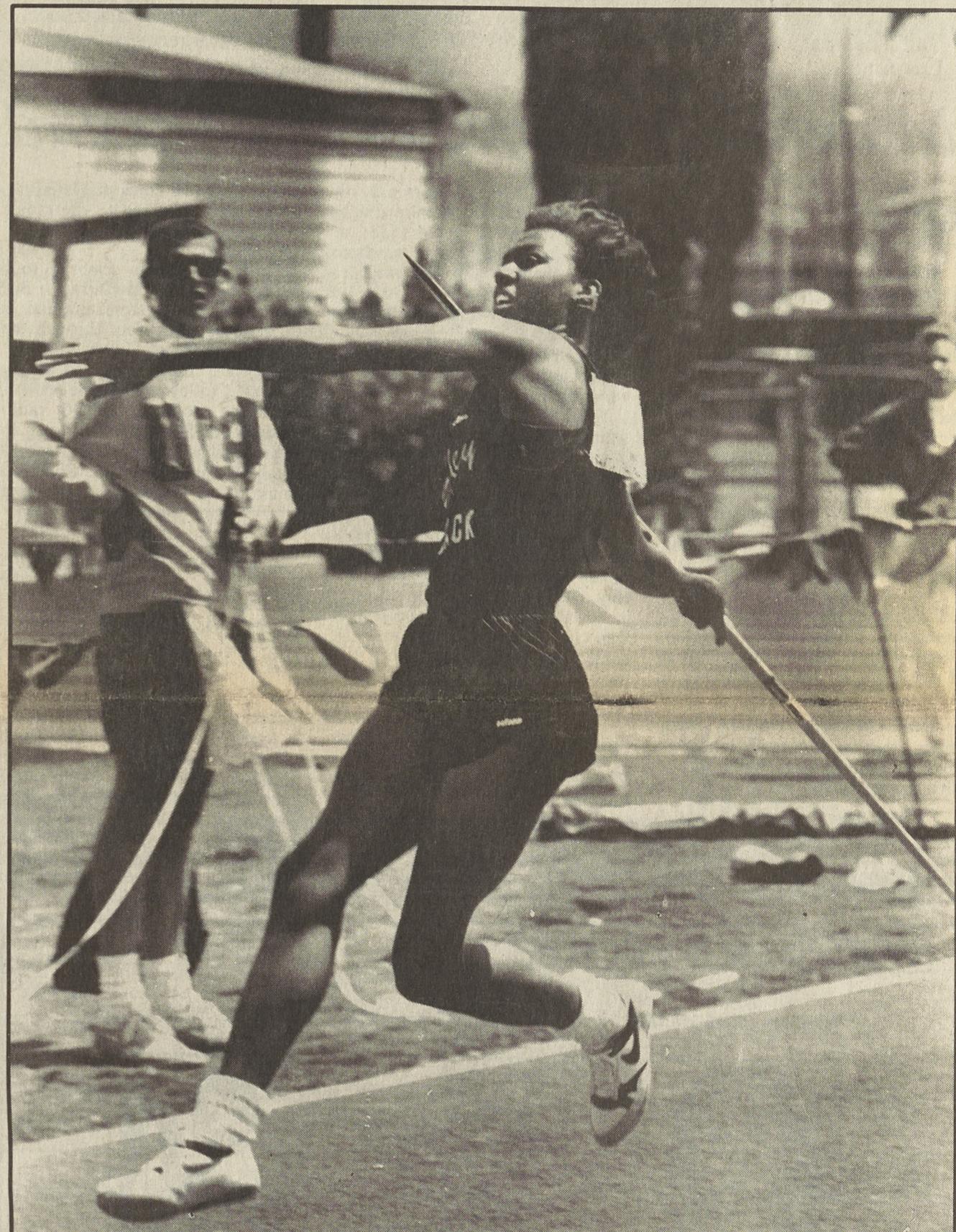
tion of a rule that he who violates that right in another forfeits it for himself,'" said Sterk.

Sterk presented three contentions for consideration: the death penalty is consistent with civilized society; the death penalty is justified punishment and that Americans favor the death penalty.

"We can't talk about deterrence because we have never had a national death penalty law in this country," said Sterk.

Broslawsky said that the death penalty doesn't establish respect for

See Debate, page 3



CHAMPION STANCE — Melanie Clarke heaves the javelin, which is the sixth event of the brutal

heptathlon. Clarke increased her leading margin and went on to win the heptathlon.

ERIC LAWSON / Valley Star

## EVENT CALENDAR

**Today-May 24**

All Day—Last day to vote in the Associated Student Union general elections on campus.

11 a.m.—Valeria Orlando, soprano, and Carlo Thomas, bass, perform in the Music Recital Hall.

Noon—Student Senate meets in Campus Center 104.

8 p.m.—Pete Parkin & Timothy A. Jameson direct *Once Upon A Mattress*, in the Little Theatre. General admission is \$7 and seniors and students are \$5.

**Friday-May 25**

11 a.m.—Black Student Union meets in Monarch Hall.

Noon—Collegiates for Life meet in Bungalow 68.

Noon—GALA meets in Behavioral Science 108.

8 p.m.—*Once Upon A Mattress*, continues tonight, in the Little Theatre.

**Saturday-May 26**

8 p.m.—*Once Upon A Mattress*, concludes tonight, in the Little Theatre.

**Monday-May 28**

Memorial Day—No school today!!!

**Tuesday-May 29**

11 a.m.—Alcoholics Anonymous meets in Bungalow 50.

Noon—ASU Executive Council meets in CC104.

Noon—Pro-Choice meets in Humanities 101.

**Wednesday-May 30**

Noon—Adm. of Justice club meets in Bungalow 1.

Noon—MEChA meets in Foreign Language 111.

1:30 p.m.—IMS Filmex screens Michael Gordon's *Cyrano de Bergerac* in Behavioral Science 101.

## MEChA stages 'Sixties' style sit-in and teacher protest rally

By DIANA E. MOSS and JEREMY L. BREWER  
News Editor and Staff Writer

Reminiscent of protests of the 60s, MEChA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán) staged a parade and "sit-in" against Valley College's hiring practices, in the Administration Building yesterday afternoon.

The sit-in was held in the hallway outside of President Mary E. Lee's office.

The protest began approximately at 11:30 a.m., with members of MEChA and Associated Student Union officers parading around the campus with signs and chanting slogans.

Other students, who supported the cause, joined in the demonstration. There was approximately 30-40 protesters, altogether.

The protest involves Valley's hiring of Rose Drummond, a non-Chicana, to replace Gilbert Bautista, a Chicano, as a Chicano

studies instructor. Bautista left Valley earlier this semester, for personal reasons.

The class was supposed to be offered to Carmen Vizueto, then to Martin Enriquez-Marquez. This

"She [Drummond] doesn't have the experience of being a Chicana ... Most of us were brought up in barrios [hispanic ghettos] ... Pacoima."

Jessica Chavez

would have been the correct procedure, if the *Hourly Rate Seniority List* had been followed.

A violation occurred in the seniori-

ty rights of part-time instructors in the Chicano studies department. Drummond was hired in place of Enriquez-Marquez, whose seniority rights were violated [as of Jan. 4, 1990].

Enriquez-Marquez has filed a grievance on the subject matter. He is currently receiving pay for one hourly assignment, even though he is not teaching any classes.

The Campus Police were called in by the President's Office to keep the demonstrators in line. The students were told to keep the hallway clear and were allowed to stay.

"They [the protesters] were well behaved," said Frank Dallas, Valley College police officer. "They were exercising their rights."

"They were informed of the proper channels," said Dallas. "... and will make their appeal to the [Los Angeles Community College District] Board of Trustees."

Lee was off-campus at the time of the protest. At press time, her office

had not released an official statement.

"We think there's been too many discriminations against us [Chicanos]," said Jessica Chavez, member of MEChA.

"It doesn't matter if a person comes from a barrio or not. As long as they know what they're talking about, they should be allowed to teach."

Ernesto Vera

"She [Drummond] doesn't have the experience of being a Chicana," said Chavez. "Most of us were

See MEChA, page 3

## STAR EDITORIAL

### 911 — to call or not to call

Telephones at Valley College are currently blocked from calling 911; the only exceptions are direct lines and pay phones. This puts the welfare of students and faculty at Valley in a very grave state.

If emergency medical care is required, students must call the Campus Police. They will send out an officer who will investigate the case and decide if 911 should be called.

Faculty members may call the campus operator, in order for a 911 call to be placed.

These are just a few of the delays in the overall 911 emergency system. Valley College needs to speed up the system on its end.

The average police response time in Van Nuys is seven minutes 42 seconds, for "Priority One" calls. They include life-threatening incidents or serious crimes in progress. As of September 1989, response time to Van Nuys was the sixth slowest in the city of Los Angeles.

### Material girl goes over deep end

By DORA ROMAN  
Staff Writer

Watching the years go by, I see that I have not changed one bit.

My mission in life is to spend my parents' money, and lately I have become more aware of how I am still a child in many ways.

Growing up in the '70s, I collected *Charlie's Angels* cards. I

"My mission in life is to spend my parents' money, and lately I have become ..."

remember as if it were yesterday, waiting for the school bell to ring so I could run to the nearest 7-11 to buy some of those cards.

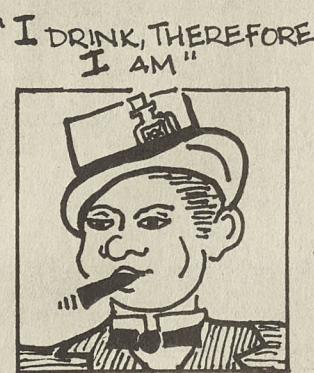
When *Grease* was released I went crazy, buying T-shirts, a lunchbox and any other paraphernalia with its title printed on it.

I can't believe all the money I spent on those items. Well ... actually, I can't believe how much of my parents' money I spent on those items.

#### INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY



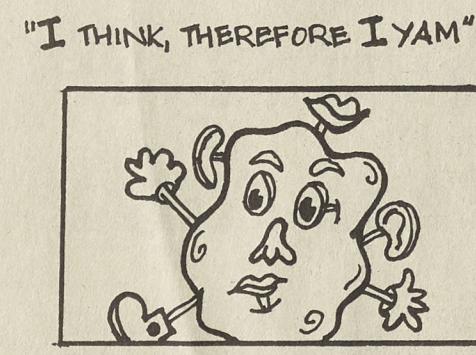
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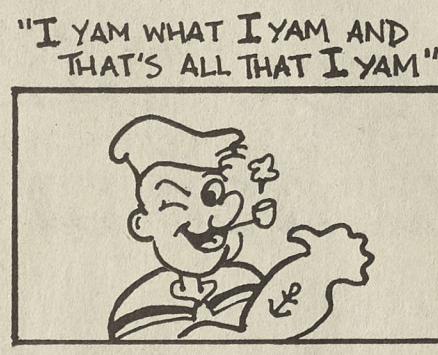
W.C. FIELDS



PEPE LE PEW



MR. POTATO HEAD



POPEYE THE SAILOR MAN

AMY RAFTI

### Valley Star

Los Angeles Valley College

Published each Thursday throughout the school year by students in the advanced writing, editing, photography and typesetting classes of the journalism department.

Editorial and Advertising Offices  
5800 Fulton Ave. Van Nuys, CA 91401  
Phone (818) 781-1200, Ext. 275/276  
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#### LETTERS — LETTERS — LETTERS — LETTERS — LETTERS — LETTERS

The Valley Star is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers.

The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or

make racial, ethnic or religious denigrations.

Letters should be signed and, if applicable, include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented to the Valley Star office, Bungalow 25, by Monday for the following Thursday.



Death penalty: Pro

### It's totally acceptable and moral

By NATHAN DEAN REPENTE  
Staff Writer

Is the death penalty to be or not to be? The people of California voted yes. Then why the delays, questions and court appeals?

The answer to this may be that although the electorate overwhelmingly supports capital punishment, questions of the act's morality are still unresolved.

The "pro-lifers" in this issue say we may make an irrevocable mistake, the person may change, and who are we to take that person's life no matter what he or she has done.

Yet, however heartless death may seem, it is moral and justified.

Weighed against the alternative, the death penalty loses its barbaric and cruel aspects. How moral is it to condemn a person to life in prison?

That in itself is mental and emotional death. He is caged in a cell with not much to do. If there is any

Death penalty: Con

environment, it's not much more than a living nightmare.

It seems there is little rehabilitation or help for anyone committed, let alone those who are among the worst offenders. You hear of suicides, gang wars and accidents in prisons. Is that life?

Yet, how can we ever feel safe if we release vicious criminals to roam in society?

Does a person change after he has tortured, raped and murdered?

How can you tell if that kind of person is sincere in his rehabilitation?

If he has lied to hide these discrepancies, won't he lie about being reformed?

A justification for the death penalty over life imprisonment is one of economics. The cost of holding a criminal until the sentence is carried out would have to be less than that of life imprisonment. The cost of the holding cell, clothing, food, water, guards and medical

needs must be enormous in a life sentence.

Although the people have voiced their desire that the death penalty is acceptable, in practice the legal system has helped the condemned beat the rap.

A criminal may appeal to the 11 circuits, any of which may overturn the ruling.

As of 1978 there are more than 200 convicts on death row. The ones at the top of the list are on appeal or in the process of appealing. All of this is within their constitutional rights and funded through the taxpayer's dollar.

The Robert Alton Harris case has been returned to the U.S. District Courts from the Supreme. How much more money do taxpayers have to spend before the decision is made?

Robert Alton Harris seems to get a second chance. What about the victims, innocent teenagers at a fastfood restaurant? They don't.

### Better alternatives must exist

By ERIC BARAD  
Staff Writer

An "eye for an eye." This statement taken from the Bible is one of the most common arguments for the death penalty.

The trouble with an "eye for an eye" justice is that it legitimizes the taking of the first eye. Further, many death penalty advocates fail to realize the role that society plays in the lives of murderers on death row.

Take the case of Robert Alton Harris, Harris, who was sentenced to die last April, suffered from mental and physical abuse as a child.

Where was the necessary help that he so deserved? Should we kill this man because society failed? I think not!

"[With the death penalty] we're missing an important point," said Mike Vivian, Valley College sociologist. "We let society create these monsters. Children enter the world abused and unwanted — then society says 'we'll kill them.'

Economics also plays an important role. For men and women who grow up in poverty stricken neighborhoods, where education is

less than adequate, the only life for many of them to turn to is a life of crime — often resulting in murder.

The other side of the economic issue has also been cited: court costs. The death penalty is sup-

"If that \$3 million is put into education and prenatal care, we can cut crime that way."

— Mike Vivian, Valley College sociologist

posedly cheaper than life imprisonment.

Not so, according to Vivian. It costs \$3 million to put a man to death, compared to only \$20,000 to \$28,000 to keep him in prison for life.

"If that \$3 million is put into education and prenatal care, we can cut crime that way," said Vivian.

Another sad commentary about the death penalty is the staggering amount of juvenile offenders on death row.

Studies show that murderers of white people are sentenced to death far more frequently than the murderers of blacks, which is a matter now being considered before the supreme court.

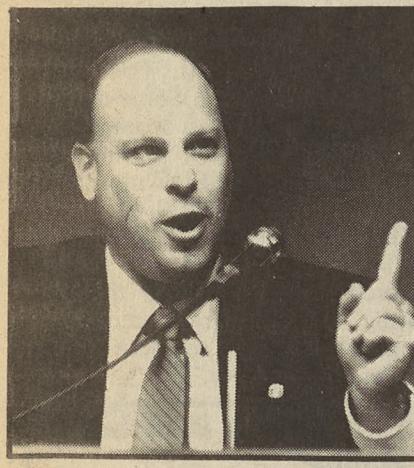
I believe there can be a formula for justice stopping short of human life that politicians won't dismiss as too liberal. There must be a method for treating violent criminals toughly that's not too conservative.

## Debate...

(continued from pg. 1)

the law. "Execution is applied in a racially motivated fashion."

"Overwhelmingly, black people suffer more executions than white people," said Broslawsky. "It is applied in a racial and political manner to get rid of dissenters. It has nothing to do with crime, it has to do with people's fears."



JACK STERK



FARREL BROSLAWSKY

## MEChA...

(continued from pg. 1)

In his final remarks, Broslawsky offered his final opinion on capital punishment, "The death penalty is as consistent with civilized society as rape is with affection."

In his final remarks, Broslawsky offered his final opinion on capital punishment, "The death penalty is as consistent with civilized society as rape is with affection."

*"It's nothing personal against Drummond..."*

Refugio Lepe

Ernesto Vera, historian of MEChA, had a different opinion of Drummond's right to teach Chicano Studies, "It doesn't matter if a person comes from the barrio or not. As long as they know what their talking about, they should be allowed to teach."

MEChA members have collected over 300 signatures on petitions, which they circulated, in regards to the subject. The ASU commissioner of Chicano studies, Ramiro Barragan, wrote letters to Administration, also in regards to Valley's hiring practices.



ADAM CROCKER / Valley Star

**CHICANO RIGHTS** — Members of MEChA and the Associated Student Union protest, yesterday, on campus in response to Valley College's hiring practices. The protestors staged a sit-in at the President's office.

## News Notes

### HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP

The Department of Veteran's Affairs is offering scholarships to nursing, physical or occupational therapy students.

Students must be in the final year of an associate degree in nursing program, as well as third and fourth year students in baccalaureate and master's degree programs in nursing and physical or occupational therapy.

Students receive tuition, educational expenses and a monthly stipend of \$621 in exchange for serving full-time in a VA medical center.

For more information, write to the VA Health Professional Scholarship Program (143b), Office of Academic Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20420, or by calling (202) 233-3652. The deadline for filing is May 29.

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### GRADUATION DEADLINE

Petitions for Summer 1990—Graduation are available in the Graduation Office in Administration 127.

Students who have met the requirements for graduation may file a petition. The deadline for filing is June 1.

### LEO GARAPEDIAN MEMORIAL

Contributions are being accepted in Bungalow 25 for a memorial tree, plaque, and bench to honor recently-deceased journalism professor Leo Garapedian

### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CALL: TONY CIFARELLI at:  
[818] 781-1200, Ext. 275

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## Battered wife seeks solace at nearby shelters

By JAE LEVINE-SCHNEIDER  
Staff Writer

**O**n July 19, 1986, my 14 year-old son was injured in what was not necessarily the worst, but fortunately the last beating either of us would sustain at the hands of my husband.

I left with barely more than the shirt on my back, driving away from my middle-class life into instant total poverty. I had to disappear from my home, abandoning every belonging I had ever acquired, leaving my job, Jason's school, our

*"Two days later my husband called me at my parents house in the middle of the night to tell me . . . he had just strangled the family dog."*

friends, and the lifestyle we had known.

Two days after I had left, he called me at my parents house in the middle of the night to tell me in a frightening monotone that he had just strangled the family dog. The following morning I went to the crisis center at Temple Beth Hillel where the woman I talked to identified me as a battered woman. I was shocked. I was sure she had misunderstood me, or that I had exaggerated my situation.

Still, the woman at the crisis center insisted that I not leave her office until she had put me on the phone with a battered women's telephone hotline.

This was the beginning of my contact with Haven Hills, the family

violence shelter in the San Fernando Valley, one of several hundred such shelters for battered women and children that have been created over the last dozen years throughout the United States.

**W**ithin two hours of my initial contact with the shelter, an escalation of phoned threats by my husband convinced me that I was no longer safe at my parent's house. The idea of going to a battered women's shelter was terrifying and humiliating to me. I couldn't believe my life had come to this.

As I went through the gate and into the shelter, however, I felt overcome by a strong sense of safety I suddenly realized had been missing from my life for a long, long time.

It was late afternoon, and a few children were playing in a beautiful, sandboxed playground. With a warm smile of greeting they pointed us towards the office. Still numb with confusion, I signed all of the forms that explained the rules and regulations of the shelter.

Without asking for anything in return, they gave me and Jason what turned out to be the beginnings of a new life. It began with armloads of freshly laundered sheets and pillowcases, towels and blankets. They led us to a small apartment and gave me the key. Bags of groceries were delivered at my door.

Someone gave me a small, drawstring bag, hand-made from a floral spring fabric. The bag contained tissues, perfume, lipstick, and a little note. I stood in that kitchen, surrounded by grocery bags, clinging to that floral bag, reading the little note attached. I burst into tears. The note, from the women's club of a local church, simply said, "We Care."

### 1983 Study in Milwaukee

*Violent husband's reactions to sources of help utilized by battered wives.*

Husband's Reaction		
Positive	Neutral	Negative
<b>Wife's efforts</b>		
Avoidance	34%	46%
Hiding	12%	56%
Passive defense	1%	98%
Talking	31%	28%
Aggressive defense	26%	54%
Family	64%	26%
Friends	49%	37%
Social-service agency	64%	10%
Lawyer, district attorney	90%	8%
Clergy	49%	24%
Police	22%	70%
Source: "Beating Wife-Beating"		



JANICE RUTHERFORD / Valley Star

**I**n that first day in the shelter I still didn't think that I really belonged there. I felt apologetic about my lack of bruises and broken bones. I felt badly about taking up space that could better serve someone more pitiful and victimized than I believed I was. Meeting the other residents, I was stunned when I realized how close my experience was to the other women's stories.

During the first session, a list of behavior patterns, typical of batterers, was described. Every one of them was a trait I'd seen in my husband. I realized I had been in a state of denial. My husband was indeed a batterer, my son had been truly abused, and I was a battered woman.

**I** was not alone though, all of the women at the shelter had suffered, I found, through years of secrets and silence. In sharing our stories in those group sessions, each of us discovered a bond of shared suffering. Every disclosure triggered more forgotten memories locked inside the amnesia of our denial.

Often one of the women would begin a description of violence experienced, only to have it continued by the rest of us. It was as if we had all married the same man.

I remember the counselors nodding with patient understanding. They had heard it all hundreds of times before, and would hear it again each time a new woman came to the shelter.

**T**he thirty days I spent in the shelter changed my life forever. The group and individual therapy helped me understand the dynamics of my battering relationship.

My son also showed signs of improvement at the shelter. Through counseling, Jason was able to come to terms with the emotional and physical abuse inflicted on him by his father. In addition, the individual attention Jason received from the teaching program on the premises improved his study skills.

The shelter also helped give the women and myself tools for preparing for life on our own. We were taught practical things such as budgeting, job hunting, and parenting skills. We were given legal assistance to help us through such

things as restraining orders, child support custody disputes, and divorce proceedings.

Through it all our group stuck together. We cried on each other's shoulders, but we also laughed. One day, frustrated with the uphill battle, I maliciously drew a big sign with a marking pen and put it in my window for all to see. It read "This Shelter is Batter Operated."

But, we had our tragedies, too. Women who could not accept their own independence would abandon the program, leaving the rest of the group visibly shaken. Each "Goodbye Group" was fraught with deep sadness, as we hugged another woman who had been part of our new family and watched her drive off into the unknown. We all promised to stay in touch. With some returning to their husbands, some starting over in other cities, and some, like me, going into hiding. I can never forget them.

I vowed that when I left the shelter I would start my life over, to return to my husband. Thanks to my own self-determination and the help of my friends and staff at the outreach program, I have managed

to beat the odds and remain free of my oppressor.

However, not all of the women I met were as lucky as I. Some women didn't have the strength to seize their freedom. Others just didn't have enough money or the job skills needed to escape their past. Still others succumbed to the seductions and promises of men whose control depended on their charm.

It's a sad fact that battered women will leave their batterers an average of seven times before they leave the relationship for good. Too many women never get out. Some die trying to get away. Most women who are murdered by their partners are killed during the first few months of separation.

Through articles, stories and poetry, I try to express the soul of battered women, hoping that my writing will encourage more endangered women to seek alternatives to their lives.

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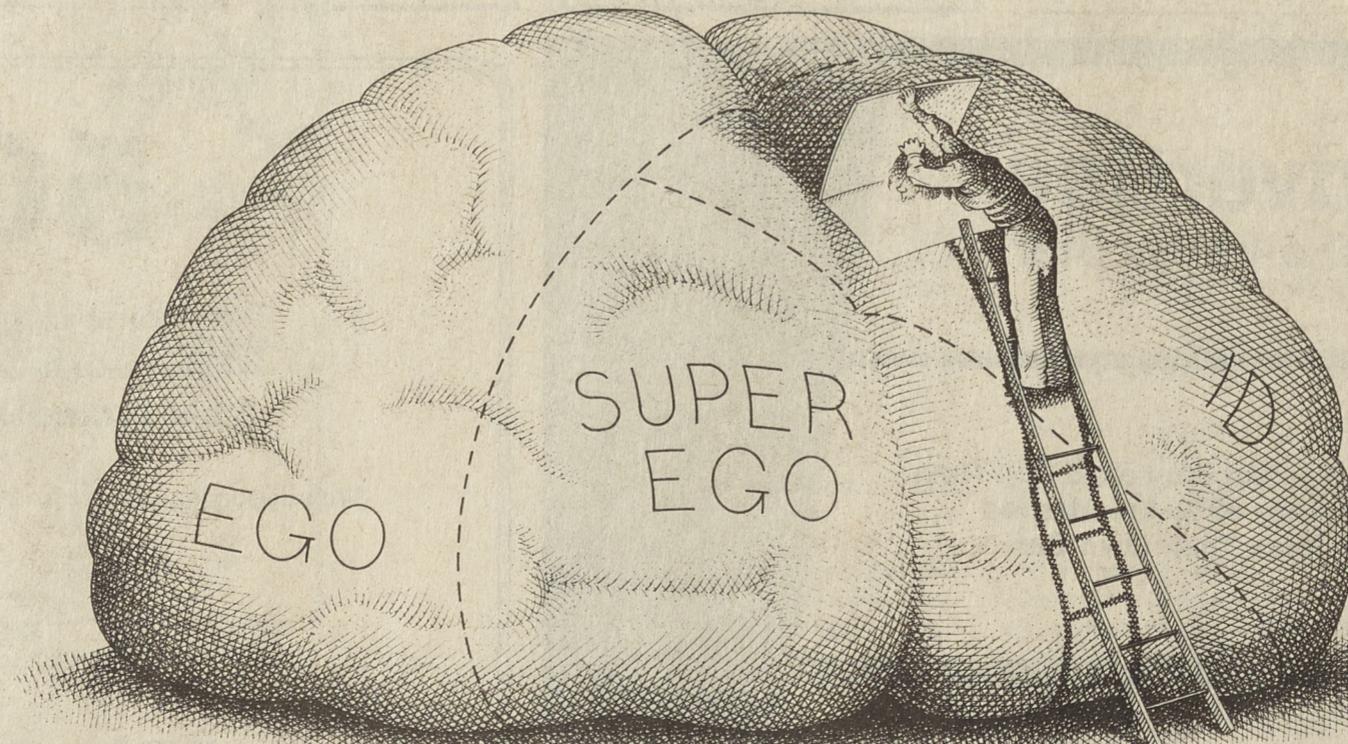
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## Theater review

### Mattress doesn't rest on its laurels

By NATHAN DEAN REPONTE  
Staff Writer

Once upon a time in a small valley known as San Fernando, there was a place called Los Angeles Valley College, and on this college there was a theater department who decided to do a musical.

Which musical, they asked? After careful thought, they decided on a nice comedy with the name of *Once Upon a Mattress*.

A musical reworking of the fairytale *The Princess and the Pea*, *Once Upon a Mattress* is the story of Prince Dauntless (Joseph Spencer), whose quest for marriage is hampered by his mother, the Queen (Stephanie Shayne).

Devising tests that were hard for prospective princesses to pass, the Queen keeps her son a bachelor in order to retain her power. But Dauntless isn't named that way for nothing, as he sets out to find his princess.

In her first production, Andrea M. Maybaum was given the part of the Princess Winnifred, whose sensitivity is tested when she has to sleep on 20 mattresses with a small pea embedded among them.

Maybaum's performance was natural and fluid, and she provided one of the play's musical highlights, a song about shyness that was enhanced by her smooth soprano vocal.

Mean and manipulative, Shayne bit into the role of the Queen as if

she were eating a juicy turkey drumstick.

In his role as the Minstrel, John Gourdoux gave an excellent performance. With his baritone delivery, Gourdoux's voice was reminiscent of the minstrels of old.

Credit should be given to the theater department for bringing this assemblage of actors and actresses to do this funny little musical, with a majestic bow to musical director/conductor Timothy A. Jameson and director Peter Parkin.

Those of you who haven't seen *Once Upon a Mattress* will have tonight, tomorrow and Saturday to see it. General admission is \$7, \$5 for students and senior citizens. For information and reservations call (818) 781-1200 ext. 353.

### Let the *bon temps roule* 21st N.O. Jazz Fest an all-night party

By JIMMY SLOAN  
Staff Writer

"Bon temps roule, y'all!" Everyone sing, "Son of a gun, we'll have big fun on the bayou!"

For those of you who have never been to New Orleans, here's some quick French: "Bon temps roule" means "Let the good times roll." And that's just what everybody did at the 21st annual New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival.

The 1990 Jazz Fest ran from April 27 through May 6 at the Fair Grounds Race Track as well as several clubs and venues in the "Crescent City."

A wide variety of jazz, blues, rock 'n' roll, cajun, zydeco, country, gospel, folk and just about every other musical style indigenous to the southeastern United States were well-represented by local and international talent.

The sounds of the South came forth from five stages and five tents, with acts running simultaneously from 12 to 7 p.m. There were also nightly shows at local spots including Tipitina's and the Riverboat Hallelujah Revival Hall.

I went from the airport straight to Tipitina's to catch Dr. John (having missed the first weekend, I was eager to catch up on my musicology). The good Doctor was in prime form.

He had a great backup band of New Orleans session musicians and played two sets well into the even-

ing. When I finally left Tipitina's at 3 a.m., "The Night Tripper" could still be seen hammering away at the keys.

I took a bus on Thursday night to the Riverboat Hallelujah Revival Hall. Appearing that evening were George Porter Jr., bass player of the legendary *Meters* (and, next to Bootsy Collins, the undisputed "King of the Bottom End"), Snooks Eaglin, a blind blues guitarist who rocked out in a chair while picking the guitar with his middle finger, and the Wild Magnolias, who did an impressive set of traditional New Orleans chants while performing in homemade feathered gowns and headresses.

A smattering of performers at the Fest on Friday: D.L. Menard, the cajun Hank Williams, Charles Neville (the snake-charming, sax-blowing Neville Bro hisself), Mason Ruffner, a Texas guitar god cum New Orleans local who sings like Dylan and plays like Hendrix (well...almost) and the once-considered "Bob Dylan of country," John Prine. Talk about eclectic!

Saturday at the track could have been named Daniel Lanois Day. Lanois, the French-Canadian record producer, once Brian Eno's record engineer now big cheese in New Orleans, turned in an inspired set with his four-piece band of technical mercenaries.

The Fabulous Thunderbirds redeemed themselves by actually playing like they meant it! When

lead guitarist Jimmy Vaughn's younger brother Stevie Ray joined the T-Birds for their encore, the crowd acted as if they were in honky tonk heaven.

On Sunday I caught Dr. John (one more time), Champion Jack Dupree (mentor of John's) and Irma Thomas, New Orleans' "First Lady of Soul". But, once again it was the Texas guitar boogie of those Vaughn Brothers (this time Stevie Ray) who stole the show on the final day of the fest.

Fronting his band, Double Trouble, Vaughn took over the main stage and proceeded to pull out all the stops. For his encore, Stevie Ray worked the crowd into a frenzy with a knockout rendition of "Voodoo Chile".

In the end New Orleans, not Texas, prevailed. Black Top Records had its annual Black Top Blues-arama Sunday night at Tipitina's, featuring Eaglin and Earl King.

Snooks stole the show, but it was King who served as the perfect nightcap to ten days of music and mayhem in the Big Easy. Playing well into the wee hours of the morning, Earl King closed Sunday's show with his signature tune, "Come On (Let the Good Times Roll)".

That song brought King a donut shop and international acclaim. For me, "Let the Good Times Roll" served as an anthem for the 21st Annual New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, the chorus going through my head on the drive to the airport.

Strike a pose...



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Flanked by (L to R) dancer Lourdes Rodriguez, vocalist Remedios Flores and dancer Angelita, flamenco guitarist Rodrigo relaxes. The ensemble performed at LAVC's Music Recital Hall last Thursday.

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## Clarke . . .

(continued from pg. 1)

The javelin throw is probably Clarke's weakest event, but it didn't matter as Clarke managed to throw the "pin" 111 ft. 9 in., which put her grand total at 4,239 points and 300 points from the nearest foe. Rebecca Foster won the event with a throw of 121 ft. 5 in., but because of her dismal first day she was not in the running for a medal.

The last event of the day was the 800 meter, but it was pretty much academic as to who the winner would be. "I almost didn't run the 800," said Ammonds. "The javelin killed me and I was pretty upset, but I had to give her [Clarke] some competition."

The 800 saw a great race, because Ammonds pushed Clarke to the wire, fighting her to the

end, but Clarke just edged her at the tape to win it by .006 seconds.

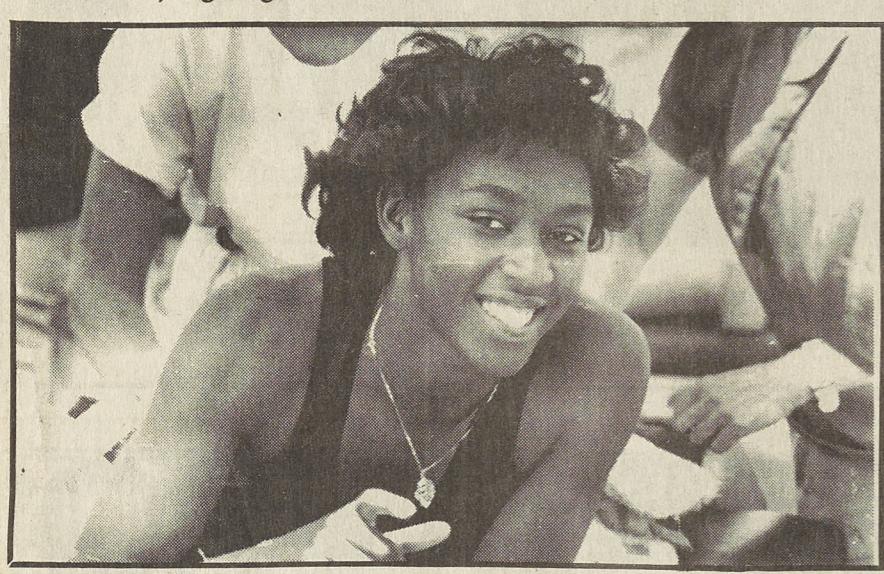
"It was just an incredible weekend for me," said Clarke, who finished with 5,034 points, a new Valley record. She is the first Heptathlete from Valley to win the state championship.

Valley's other competitors were disappointing.

Nikywa Prevost, Valley's premiere sprinter, finished fourth in the 100 meter, and barely made the final heat.

The women's 4x400 relay team probably was the biggest disappointment, as they were leading the race on the final leg and finished a dismal seventh.

But probably the biggest disappointment was Robert Scott, Valley's best long jumper. Scott could not get his running rhythm down and scratched on his first three attempts, to foul out of the



RUB DOWN — Melanie Clarke, Valley's State Heptathlon Champion, stays loose between events.



SKYWAY — Robert Scott, of Valley, throws himself to the mercy of the pit. Scott fouled on all of his three attempts.

## Watier to stay

By ELAINE MARTIN  
Staff Writer

Ashlee Watier is a very determined woman. And the best thing about that is she is swimming for Valley College.

Watier really wasn't interested in swimming until she was seven, when she learned to swim from a lifeguard.

"He saw something in me," Watier said, "and told the swim coach at the pool to come see me swim." From then on, she has been swimming competitively.

In April, the Western States Conference Championships were held at the Valley pool. Watier won all her events and set a record in the 100-yard individual medley.

Watier has great respect for swimming coach Bill Krauss. "I owe a lot to Bill. He has respect for you as a person and as a swimmer," Watier said. "He lets you go your own course."

When Watier graduated with a 4.0 G.P.A. from Mt. Carmel High School in San Diego, she was offered swimming scholarships to schools from Massachusetts to Washington.

However, she accepted a scholarship to Cal State Northridge. It was there, in December of 1987, where she developed mononucleosis, which ultimately cost her a semester of school and two years of swimming.

Those two years proved to be crucial. Once away from the rigors of competitive swimming, Watier was able to get perspective on her life.

Since she began competing, swimming was all Watier knew. Year round, her life had been swimming, workouts, weight-lifting, school and sleeping.

"You miss so much when you work out so much," Watier said. "Having mono changed all that. It's hard to wish for something you can't have. As you get older, you accept what you can't have."

In addition to the rigors of competitive swimming, Watier, a child development and psychology major, is taking 21 units between Cal State Northridge and Valley.

There was a time when she only knew swimming, Watier said, and didn't know what was out there. She believes that her getting sick changed all that, and that she learned to appreciate what she has.

Watier will be back next year to compete for Valley. After next semester, however, she is not sure where she will go, but is looking for a college that will be good for her major. As far as swimming is concerned, she said the pressure on college athletes is amazing.

She said that in the past some coaches have told her she could have people available to take tests for her. Watier was even offered a \$400-a-week job to take out trash at one school.

"I expected this of famous sports, not of swimming," Watier said.

Watier has been very successful in competitive swimming, but that her whole life might not have been centered around swimming.

"A fluke got me started," Watier said. "I never went to seek it out, it just came to me."

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